WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A device for calculating a total amount of toner consumed from a toner cartridge, the device comprising:

a counter, which obtains a first amount of the toner, which is consumed in a first region of a recording medium at which a toner image is formed;

a timer, which clocks a time period of which the toner cartridge is in operation;

a storage, which stores in advance a second amount of the toner, which is consumed in a second region of the recording medium at which the toner image is not formed, the second amount being associated with the time period; and

a calculator, which adds the second amount to the first amount in accordance with the clocked time period, in order to obtain the total amount.

2. A device for calculating a total amount of toner consumed from a toner cartridge, the device comprising:

a counter, which obtains a first amount of the toner, which is consumed in a first region of a recording medium at which a toner image is formed;

a storage, which stores in advance a second amount of the toner, which is consumed by forming a test image; and

a calculator, which adds the second amount to the first amount, in order to obtain the total amount.

3. A device for calculating a total amount of toner consumed from a toner cartridge, the device comprising:

a counter, which obtains a first amount of the toner, which is consumed in a first region of a recording medium at which a toner image is formed;

a storage, which stores in advance a second amount of the toner, which is consumed for a purpose other than the formation of the toner image on the recording medium; and

a calculator, which adds the second amount to the first amount, in order to obtain the total amount.

4. The device as set forth in claim 3, wherein the second amount of the toner includes a toner used for forming a registration mark for placing the recording medium at a predetermined position.

5. The device as set forth in claim 3, wherein the second amount of the toner includes a toner used for stabilizing vibrations of a cleaning blade abutted against a toner carrier.

6. A device for calculating a total amount of toner consumed from a toner cartridge, the device comprising:

a counter, which obtains a first amount of the toner, which is consumed in a first region of a recording medium at which a toner image is formed;

a first storage, which stores in advance a second amount of the toner, which is consumed for forming a first test image;

a second storage, which stores in advance a third amount of the toner, which is consumed for forming a second test image; and

a calculator, which adds the second amount and the third amount to the first amount, in order to obtain the total amount.

7. The device as set forth in claim 6, wherein the first test image is a gradation image, and the second test image includes at least a solid image.

8. The device as set forth in claim 6, wherein:

the first storage is provided in a first controller which receives an image signal from an external device; and

the second storage is provided in a second controller which controls the formation of the toner image based on an instruction from the first controller.

9. The device as set forth in any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein:

a plurality of colors of toner are used to form the toner image; and

the second amount is individually determined for each of the colors.

10. The device as set forth in claim 6, wherein:

a plurality of colors of toner are used to form the toner image; and

the second amount and the third amount are individually determined for each of the colors.

11. A method for calculating a total amount of toner consumed from a toner cartridge, the method comprising steps of:

obtaining a first amount of the toner, which is consumed in a first region of a recording medium at which a toner image is formed;

clocking a time period of which the toner cartridge is in operation;

storing in advance a second amount of the toner, which is consumed in a second region of the recording medium at which the toner image is not formed, the second amount being associated with the time period; and

adding the second amount to the first amount in accordance with the clocked time period, in order to obtain the total amount.

12. A method for calculating a total amount of toner consumed from a toner cartridge, the method comprising steps of:

obtaining a first amount of the toner, which is consumed in a first region of a recording medium at which a toner image is formed;

storing in advance a second amount of the toner, which is consumed by forming a test image; and

adding the second amount to the first amount, in order to obtain the total amount.

13. A method for calculating a total amount of toner consumed from a toner cartridge, the method comprising steps of:

obtaining a first amount of the toner, which is consumed in a first region of a recording medium at which a toner image is formed;

storing in advance a second amount of the toner, which is consumed for a purpose other than the formation of the toner image on the recording medium; and

adding the second amount to the first amount, in order to obtain the total amount.

14. The method as set forth in claim 13, wherein the second amount of the toner includes a toner used for forming a registration mark for placing the recording medium at a predetermined position.

15. The method as set forth in claim 13, wherein the second amount of the toner includes a toner used for stabilizing vibrations of a cleaning blade abutted against a toner carrier.

16. A method for calculating a total amount of toner consumed from a toner cartridge, the method comprising steps of:

obtaining a first amount of the toner, which is consumed in a first region of a recording medium at which a toner image is formed;

storing in advance a second amount of the toner, which is consumed for forming a first test image;

storing in advance a third amount of the toner, which is consumed for forming a second test image; and

adding the second amount and the third amount to the first amount, in order to obtain the total amount.

17. The method as set forth in claim 16, wherein the first test image is a gradation image, and the second test image includes at least a solid image.

18. The method as set forth in any one of claims 11 to 13, wherein:

a plurality of colors of toner are used to form the toner image; and

the second amount is individually determined for each of the colors.

19. The method as set forth in claim 16, wherein:

a plurality of colors of toner are used to form the toner image; and

the second amount and the third amount are individually determined for each of the colors.

20. An image forming apparatus, comprising:

the device as set forth in any one of claims 1 to 3 and 6;

a storage, which stores a remaining amount of the toner in the toner cartridge, the remaining amount is calculated by subtracting the total amount calculated by the calculator from an initial amount of the toner; and

a judge, which judges a time at which the toner cartridge is replaced, in a case where the remaining amount becomes a predetermined value or less.

21. The image forming apparatus as set forth in claim 20, wherein the predetermined value is selected from a plurality of values one of which is substantially zero.

22. The image forming apparatus as set forth in claim 20, wherein the predetermined value is varied in accordance with a rate of an area of the toner image relative to the recording medium.

23. The image forming apparatus as set forth in claim 20, wherein the predetermined value is individually determined for each of a plurality of toner cartridges having different volumes.